

REMARKS

The specification is amended to update the paragraph under the caption entitled "Cross-Reference To Related Applications", to include reference to the prior copending parent U.S. Application No. 10/020,450, filed December 14, 2001.

Claims 2, 4, 6, 15- 23, 33- 38, and 42- 47 are canceled. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 51, 52, and 55-57 have been amended.

Accordingly, Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-14, 24-32, 39-41, and 48-62 are pending in the application.

Claim 1 has been amended bring out the feature that the method of the invention is a method of treating/ameliorating a symptom of neuronal damage associated with a cerebral ischemic condition by administering an effective amount of a non-alpha tocopherol metabolite enriched tocopherol composition. According to this feature of the invention, the non-alpha tocopherol metabolite is selected from the group consisting of a beta-tocopherol metabolite, a gamma-tocopherol metabolite and a delta tocopherol metabolite. Support for this feature of the invention can be found, for example, in the specification at page 21, lines 2-6, 11-15 and 20-21 thereof and in the Drawings at Figure 3.

Claims 3, 5, 7 and 55-57 have been amended to recite the term "metabolite," in order to conform with the language of Claim 1, from which they depend.

Claim 8 has been amended to spell out the term 2,7,8-trimethyl-2-(β -carboxy-ethyl)-6-hydroxy chroman, for which gamma-CEHC, or γ -CEHC, is an abbreviation.

Claim 10 was amended to correct a topographical error of the spelling of the term thromboembolus.

Claims 58, 59, 60, 61 and 62 are added to bring out the feature that the method of the claimed invention is effective to reduce certain specific forms of neuronal damage, namely, total cerebral infarct volume, total cerebral ischemic damage, cerebral edema, and cognitive dysfunction. Support for these aspects of the invention can be found throughout the specification, for example at page 11, lines 15-20, page 19, lines 1-18 and page 68, lines 13-16.

Applicants believe that no new matter is added by way of the foregoing amendments and additions to the claims.

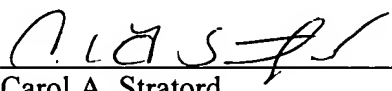
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the above amendments. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at. (650) 856-3700.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 50-2859** referencing docket no. 104732000601.

Respectfully submitted,

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